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Hongkong, 13th December, 1906. (30)

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BIRTHS.

On December 21st, at the Park Hospital, Hongkong, the wife of E. Tausch, Lappa Customs, of a son. (2337)
At Victoria Hospital, the wife of H. HOBLEY, Civil Accountant, Army Service Corps, of a daughter. (2338)

DEATHS.

On December 16th, at Shanghai, on board the S. Pouch, ROBERT PERDON DUNSTON, aged 33 years. (2339)
On December 18th, at Shanghai, ROBERT FURNHAM, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. H. B. CAMPBELL. (2340)

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VUEX ROAD CL
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The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, DECEMBER 25th, 1906.

It is indicative of the disorganised condition of public feeling at home that neither the advocates nor the opponents of a measure which has been attracting or rather distracting public attention to a degree far beyond its intrinsic importance, should have been thought themselves of looking at the practical side of the matter. We allude once more to the recent clamour with regard to women suffrage. The principal danger in the present position of affairs is not whether women should have votes or not, the state will go on in much the same way in either case, but that under the present scheme of representation and under the present conditions of quietude abroad, the English people seem to have lost all instinct of government whatever. In this respect the old Greeks were really in advance of our twentieth century agitators, inasmuch as they had learnt the lesson that successful representation did not lie in the multiplication of voters. It was, indeed, a well understood maxim, and one not seldom acted upon, that if a tyrant desired to obtain unhampered control of a city his course was invariably to make the constituency as numerous as possible; this he

did by professing to be an extreme democrat, and pandering to the wishes of the proletariat. The men of thought and sense amongst the community, seeing that in any contest they would be submerged by the multitude of votes, and that individual opinion was bound to be swamped in any case, as a rule refrained from the polls; and the tyrant was elected as chief magistrate. Before the first burst of enthusiasm which had brought him in at the head of the poll had become exhausted, it was easy to persuade the proletariat that democracy was in danger from the secret designs of their enemies, and procure the restriction of the votes to a favoured few in the confidence of the would-be tyrant. The rest followed as a matter of course, and the too easily gullible constituency found itself, though the constitution was still to all outward appearance democratic, really at the mercy of its late suppliant, who seldom failed to rule it with a rod of iron.

We have seen how in the United States it has required a powerful effort on the part of the well-wishers to the constitution to preserve it from a similar catastrophe, and, though the outlook is momentarily clearer, a state of enervation like that that prevailed only a few years ago will not improbably become periodic. Even with all the supposed safeguards of universal suffrage, the States owe to the energetic action of one man, their President, their present exemption from the evils of *hissier* fires, and an enemy to the Constitution, backed up by the arts of the disguised tyrant, might readily place the whole fabric in danger of dissolution.

New experience has commenced to show that already the British constituencies are growing limp under the action of the process of "watering" which has been going on, and that the individual power of the voter has been reduced to such insignificance, that he has almost, if not quite, lost all sense of personal responsibility. A more dangerous position for the wellbeing of the state could not be conceived. Now, if the admission of women to the polls were in every other respect most desirable, and useful for the state, this one objection of the weakening of the constituency would be sufficient to condemn it in the eyes of practical men. There is here no question of competency, nor of inequality between the sexes, the influence of woman herself would be practically curtailed by the measure, inasmuch as she would gain the right at the expense of a still further dilution of the individual power of the elector. Probably the most effectual way of getting at the real wishes of a constituency would be to select the individual voters by lot out of the entire community. If, say, an overrated constituency of 20,000 could be concentrated to 1,000, or 500, the opinions of the whole would find clearer utterance than in the present system where the weak solution is apt to be turned up by any chance wind that may blow over it. In such a case woman's suffrages would be not only efficient, but actually beneficial. In other assemblies where women have taken part, common experience proves them to be, in the nature of the case, as competent as their husbands or brothers, and could we only procure a representative body of women their advent at the polls would be hailed by the most irreconcilable of old time Tories. With such a "concentrated essence" of a constituency we might fairly presume that every individual voter would rise to a truer conception of his own responsibility, and that the House of Commons would be far more representative of public feeling than it can at present claim to be. It needs no elaborate array of facts and arguments to prove that in the present overgrown constituencies, the appeal to reason must ever give way to the dictates of prejudice; and that this is practically acknowledged is shown in the way in which every application to the country is carefully disguised under specious cries intended, not to appeal to the reason, but to tickle the sensibilities. Neither party can plead not guilty of using such specious appeals. Nor is it to be denied that the House of Commons itself has outgrown the limits of number when important topics, especially when they involve affairs that concern the susceptibilities of the nation at large, cannot be dispassionately or profitably discussed. Unfortunately the millennium has not as yet arrived, so, of course, we must content ourselves in making the best of present conditions. This does not, however, imply that we should in our haste rush on to greater difficulties. A practical method of condensing our present constituencies so as to render them more representative of the nation at large, it is true, has yet to be found; but this should render us all the

more careful not to clog the present machine with still more adherent foreign matter than at present clings to it. No one could consistently claim that the "Mrs. JELLANE" of the present, who neglect their families, and permit their children to grow up untrained and useless members of society, in their zeal for whitewashing little niggers on the banks of the Niger, are fair representatives of the womanhood of the country. The ladies who inaugurate unfeminine struggles with the police, which would disgrace their sisters of the gutter, can scarcely be looked upon as fair specimens of the women of the land, yet it is our Misses PANKHURST and their fellow workers who claim to be their representatives, and who, as the loudest tongued amongst the others, would scramble to the polls. Such a denouement would altogether destroy the basis of representative government, and be indeed a contradiction in terms. The women of the country have not authorized such abnormal specimens of their sex to pose as their representatives, and would be the last to give them their suffrages. Unfortunately their disinclination to be confounded with them would lead them to adopt the usual feminine method of expressing their lack of sympathy by refraining altogether from the polls. This occurs to us as being really the one practical objection against woman suffragists at present possible. It may be that the millennium is already on the way, but it has not as yet shown any immediate symptom of its early arrival. Under all the circumstances it would be better to wait for it, than to intrust the suffrage to such indigible and inappropriate representatives of our mothers, sisters, wives, and daughters.

The famine in Russia is extending. Several millions of people are threatened with starvation. Secretary Taft has refused the Republican nomination for the Presidency, greatly to the disappointment of President Roosevelt.

A Washington telegram to the *Hoch* says that a slight shock of earthquake has been felt at San Francisco. The citizens are taking precautions against further shocks.

An attempt has been made to ambush the Governor-General of Poland. It failed owing to the vigilance of the patrols, who exchanged volleys with the assailants.

British naval manoeuvres are to be held in February on an extensive scale. Sixty battleships and cruisers, with twenty auxiliary vessels, will assemble at Lagos.

The French Consul, M. Liebert, will leave Hongkong for home next month. It is believed that M. Liebert, acting consul at Yunnan, will occupy the post during the interim.

The coolie arrested on suspicion of the murder of Mr. J. R. Craik at the Kowloon Docks has been discharged, having satisfied the police that he had no connection with the outrage.

The last number of the *Epoch Echo* to hand is full of the race week and its social doings. "It has been a most dissipated week," remarks our contemporary, "but we all regret it is over."

While the Rev. J. H. Franco was conducting divine service at the "Palace" Home chapel on Sunday, robbers broke into his house and carried off silverware to the value of \$400. The police have the matter in hand.

It is reported from Tangier that a native proclamation is in circulation in which the nation is called upon to make preparations for a holy war against the Christian troops who are expected shortly to invade the country.

"I could see the sky was different colours," was the excuse tendered by a boatman to Mr. P. A. Hazeland at the Police Court yesterday when charged with anchoring his craft within 100 yards of the Praya. His Worship imposed a fine of \$5.

There was a procession of Sikhs on Saturday about which some argument has since proceeded. We have inquired and learn that while it was undoubtedly a religious procession, there are some followers of Guru who held aloof from it as being unorthodox.

John Chinaman [in *N.C. Daily News*] to Mrs. Archibald Little: "Unbinder of our women's feet, A limit to thy labours set, And loosed of our women's tongues, Let there arise a suffragette!"

The return of visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum for the week ending the 23rd December, 1906, shows that of non-Chinese there were 318 to the Library and 161 to the Museum; and of Chinese 139 to the former and 2420 to the latter. The Library was, therefore, used by 457 persons and the Museum by 2,581.

The death of Mrs. Carmichael, wife of Mr. H. F. Carmichael, consulting engineer, has evoked among their many friends and acquaintances in the Colony expressions of deepest sympathy. Mrs. Carmichael had spent the summer at Home, and had quite recently returned to Hongkong. She was taken seriously ill a fortnight ago while going up in the tram to the Peak, and the illness terminated fatally at her residence, Mountain View, in the early hours of Sunday morning.

The French authorities have accepted the Kowloon Dock Coy.'s tender for the repair of the French destroyer *Fronte*.

A heavy storm at San Francisco has caused damage to the amount of \$1,000,000. Two lives were lost and many persons were injured.

It is reported that the *Chinkai Maru*, which was sunk during the Typhoon off Kellert's Island and subsequently refloated, has been lost off Moji.

The American squadron anchored here yesterday received two additions in the arrival of the *Wilmington* and *Callio*. Rear Admiral Brownson is the Commander-in-Chief.

Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, the agents, send us two neat little pocket books containing calendar issued by the Guardian Assurance Co., Ltd. Through the same firm the Orient Fire Insurance Coy.'s calendar for 1907 reaches us. It has useful desk information.

To have to report sickness on such a day is not pleasant, but as the official returns were issued yesterday, we have no option. During the week ending December 22nd there were three smallpox fatalities, all Chinese; a non-fatal case of diphtheria (Portuguese); and a non-fatal case of enteric (European).

A concert is to be given at the Government Civil Hospital to-night and no doubt the patients will appreciate the entertainment to be provided. The contributors to the programme are Mrs. Newborn, Mrs. Bodeley, Miss Blair, His Excellency Mr. F. H. May, Messrs. G. Grimaldi, G. Balloch and A. S. Cobden.

Yesterday at the office of the P. W. D. the sale by public auction of land at Hangchow took place, the property being knocked down without competition to the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company for \$36,312. Another lot of Crown land at Shaikwan was disposed of to Messrs. Butterfield and Swire for \$31,482.

A coolie employed by a lady at the Peak was sent by her to a friend's house with a supply of oranges. He delivered the fruit, but departed with a bag. This he could not account for to Inspector McHardy when accosted, consequently he was charged with unlawful possession and Mr. Hsienland sentenced him to fifteen days' hard labour.

On December 17th the Chinese Emperor issued a Decree, in response to a memorial from Yin Chiang, Commander-in-Chief of Kiangpoh, commanding fifteen large sticks of Tibetan incense to be sent to Tsingkiangpu for the memorialist to offer before the altars of the Dragon River gods as a mark of the Imperial gratitude for their protection accorded the Grand Canal which was threatened to be overwhelmed by freshets in the autumn.

The Swatow correspondent of the *N.C. Daily News* wrote on December 11th: Native sugar continues to drop in price, and the sugar-merchants are feeling the competition of the imported article keenly. They consider that the whiteness of the imported sugar is a less powerful sweetener than the native product. To remedy this state of things there is a movement on foot among the merchants to introduce western machinery. Something has been done in past years with crushing rollers, which give native sugar a whiter appearance; but the refiners have a longer road to travel if they aim at a thorough use of western methods. And yet there is plenty of capital here waiting for the man who knows how to utilize it, and a big refinery standing empty.

"American" writes to a contemporary as follows:—If the speech of the new American Judge at the dinner of the American Association of China, as reported in your columns this morning, correctly represents that gentleman's ideas, it would seem regrettable that the learned gentleman comes among us with such grave misconceptions of the status of Americans and partisans that of other foreigners. I refer to that portion of his address in which he is reported to have said that we are here "really at the sufferance of the Chinese Empire." Such a contention would not be admitted for a minute by either Washington or any of the other Foreign Offices. We are really here in protection of vested interests and in consequence of treaties which in the last analysis rest on the power of the foreign Powers, including America, to enforce them, and any attitude such as that of Judge Wiley should be much deplored, the more especially at the present time when certain elements in Chinese life are showing signs of restiveness under existing conditions. The power of the American Government to establish a constitutional or extra-constitutional court here is to be determined by Congress or their own Supreme Court, but the right to do so under the treaty is not qualified by any act of sufferance of the Chinese Government, and it is unwise to let so dangerous an idea get abroad, especially when emanating from so eminent a source as the learned judge.

THE ROYAL VISITORS.

Their Royal Highnesses Prince Vlademar of Denmark and Prince George of Greece are being entertained in the Colony in a befitting manner. The *Birma* is expected to leave with the Royal party to-morrow or next day and proceed to Yokohama.

THE VOLUNTEER TROOP.

The Hongkong Volunteer Troop went under canvas at Fanling, midway between Tai-po and San Chuan, and though the weather was not encouraging the men are prepared to make the most of their experience. This is the first camp of the Troop.

TELEGRAMS.

[BREXTER'S SERVICE.]

FRANCE.

LONDON, December 22nd.

The French Chamber by 412 to 166 has passed a new Government Bill modifying the Separation law in such a way as to be conciliatory to the Church.

GERMANY.

LONDON, December 22nd.

In spite of the opposition of the Radicals and Socialists, whose attitude lately has been causing apprehension; of a Ministerial defeat, the German Government, medium and semi-official journals have submitted a programme to the electors. They trust that the nation will render a second dissolution unnecessary, and say that no new Kulturkampf is contemplated. The conservative Reichstag declares that the first task of the new Reichstag will be a vigorous naval programme.

[N.C. Daily News' Service.]

THE MUKDEN SENSATION.

SUICIDE OF A DEPUTY-CONSUL.

Tokyo, December 18th.
The American Deputy-Consul at Mukden, Mr. Fairchild, committed suicide a fortnight ago Sunday. It is supposed that his mind became deranged after the receipt of a letter from home.
[Our own telegram gave the name of the Vice-Consul as Mr. Charles G. Arnell. Ed. H.D.P.]

A NEW JAPANESE STEAMSHIP SERVICE.

Tokyo, December 18th.
It is announced that a new line of steamships, with a capital of Yen 20,000,000, is being organized by the Shipowners' Union and that the steamers will touch at North China ports, Hongkong, Manila, Java and other places.

"COPTIC" ISOLATED AT YOKOHAMA.

Tokyo, December 19th.
A suspected case of plague has occurred on board the O. S. S. *Coptic* at Yokohama. The vessel has been isolated for examination.

THE OPENING OF MANCHURIA.

Tokyo, December 19th.
The opening of the four towns in North Manchuria on January 14th, it is claimed here, is due to Japan's suggestion.
In South Manchuria Liaoyang and Fenhuan-chung alone remain unopened, and Japan has declared her readiness to open these whenever China desires.

BLIZZARD DAMAGES DALNY.

Tokyo, December 19th.
A blizzard has been raging in the vicinity of Dalny since Monday night. Enormous damage has been wrought. Communication with the shore is temporarily suspended. Over twenty ships have been wrecked at Dalny since

LOCAL SPORT.

CRICKET.

HONGKONG C.C. V. UNITED SERVICES.
The following have been selected to represent the Club in their match against the "United Services" on Xmas and Boxing Days. Play to commence at 2.30 p.m. and 11 a.m. respectively.—Messrs. R. Hancock, Harry Hancock, W. C. D. Turner, T. E. Pearce, W. A. Powell, Walter Daniel, H. R. Phelps, R. E. O. Bird, E. A. Fowler, W. Peake and N. H. Rutherford.

On Boxing Day afternoon (25th inst.) at 4.15 p.m. on the Club ground a match between T. C. Gray's XV (Colours) v. A. Naval XV will be played. The former team is as follows:—Back—T. C. Gray; three quarters—R. F. C. Master, F. C. Kendall, A. Gregory and W. J. Daniel; halves—J. Hall and L. J. Blackburne; forwards—F. C. Hall, H. F. Chard, L. Ganze, H. J. Toplis, H. W. Lester, C. B. Hayward, N. S. Forbes and M. H. Logan. The Referee is Mr. J. Clark.

THE "MONGOLIA" ENQUIRY.

A San Francisco dispatch, dated November 21st, says—John K. Bulger, Inspector of Boilers, and O. F. Bolles, Inspector of Hulls, have been unable to agree as to the measure of responsibility that attaches to Captain W. P. S. Porter for the stranding of the steamship *Mongolia* at Midway Island. Bolles handed in his decision in the matter yesterday, but Bulger refused to concur with him. The decision was handed to Supervising Inspector John Bormingham, who on account of his character, refused to make it public. He said: "Bolles and Bulger have not been able to agree as to the blame for the disaster. I have Bolles' decision to which Bulger says he dissents. This is not satisfactory. I will have a joint decision from both inspectors, or, if they are still unable to agree, I will write a decision." It is understood that Bolles, in his decision, censured Captain Porter for the disaster. On the other hand, it is said that Bulger favours the captain, and is disposed to lay the blame on First Officer Martin, who was on the bridge with the captain when the vessel stranded. This difference of opinion was apparent during the investigation into the circumstances of the stranding. It is pretty well understood that the two inspectors are unable to agree, so the prospects are that in the end the decision will come from Captain Bormingham.

Miss Mary Carrington, of Springfield (Mass.), typed, while blindfolded, 115 words from dictation in a minute, and 197 words in a minute when not blindfolded, at the National Business Appliances Show now being held in Madison-square Garden, New York. This is a record. Mr. Lindell, in 1904, typed a letter dictated to him by a "Daily Express" representative at the rate of sixty-four words in thirty seconds. In the same year, and under the same conditions, Mr. J. Wright typed 117 words a minute, eight of which were disallowed for misspelling.

SUPREME COURT.

Monday, December 24th.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUIRNE JUDGE).

A DISPUTED CONTRACT.

Mr. Hursthouse from the Crown Solicitor's Office appeared for San Lee and Co. who claimed \$450 from Chua Hon Kai, a Chinese latrine keeper, for work done, money paid and materials supplied in connection with latrines at Victoria View, Kowloon, as per estimate. The Sanitary Board served 18 notices, all of which were admitted, requiring the work to be done in accordance with the notices. The defendant, who was owner of the property, went to the plaintiff and asked how much he would charge to do the work required by the Sanitary Board. He gave an estimate which was accepted and the work was done to the satisfaction of the Sanitary Board, the usual notice of completion having been received. The only question, said Mr. Hursthouse, was one of price which was agreed upon. Mr. Gardiner for the defendant contested the price.

After hearing parties, His Honour referred the case to the Registrar to assess the value of the work done.

ANOTHER HIGHWAY ROBBERY AT KOWLOON.

An old hawk who had sold his wares at Shamshuipo on Saturday, realising a little over \$8-threepence, was returning to the village of Yuen Lung on the same night when he was "held up" and robbed by four Chinese. When he had traversed half the distance between Shamshuipo and Chiwan, and was ascending a steep incline, four men sprang from a ravine and belaboured him with bamboo poles. Then when he appealed for mercy they bound his hands, after which they relieved him of the waist belt containing his money and left him, proceeding in the direction of Shamshuipo. As soon as he recovered himself the hawk followed them, and when near the village of Kopkon raised the cry of "Save life," which brought out the villagers. As soon as they realised what had happened the

good people mustered in force and pursued the robbers, some of them being armed with rifles and revolvers. Shots were sent after the runaways, but none hit, and only one of the four thieves was captured. He was charged before Mr. C. D. Melbourne at the Police Court yesterday and remanded.

CHRISTMASIDE.

Christmaside has been ushered in with disagreeable weather, and as a result the shopping which is such a feature of the day before Christmas was confined under anything but congenial conditions. Most of the European shops had the usual seasonable display, and decorations of evergreen and holly were seen outside the hotels and other large establishments, Flower Street, at the bottom of Wyndham Street has come to be called, presented an animated scene yesterday. Not only was there a great supply of evergreen, etc., to meet the large demand for Christmas decorations, but there was a large number of pretty floral designs on view.

The streets were busier than usual by reason of the large number of men ashore from the visiting foreign cruisers, but it was interesting to note that among those professed in the art of war there was manifest the spirit of the Season. Certainly there was good will among men, and the various nationalities were seen fraternising in a manner that must have been pleasing to the friends of international amity. The language difficulty—though it existed—had apparently been surmounted, and the bluejackets of different races seemed to have arrived at a perfect understanding.

KULANGSU (AMOX) MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held at the Board Room, on the 4th December, 1906.
Present:—Messrs. W. H. Wallace (Vice-chairman), C. A. V. Bown, A. F. Gardiner, L. I. Thomas, the Health Officer and the Secretary.

1. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.
2. The Secretary is instructed to call for tenders for the removal of night soil 1907.
3. A despatch is read from the Senior Consul concerning the registering of land recently acquired by the Council, and it is decided to ask the Senior Consul to furnish the Council with a certificate as he suggests.
4. The Secretary reports the heavy loss to the ratepayers arising through the number of assessments and licenses being paid in notes and small coins, and he is instructed to issue a notice that on and after the 1st of January, 1907, all assessments and licenses of \$2.00 and over are to be paid in the large dollar, otherwise discount at Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corp. rates will be charged.
5. The Superintendent of Police reports the following cases have been dealt with at the Mixed Court since the last meeting:—

SUMMONSES.

Breach of Municipal Regulations...5. Being concerned in an abduction...1. Refusing to quit premises...1. Assault...1.

SUMMARY ARRESTS.

Being in possession of stolen property...1. Theft...1. Committing a nuisance...2. Contempt of Court...1. Assault...1.

(Signed) F. B. MARSHALL,
Chairman K.M.C.
By order,
C. BECKLEY MITCHELL,
Secretary K.M.C.

ABOUT GOLD AND SILVER.

[WRITTEN FOR THE "DAILY PRESS".]
BY STEPHEN W. NICKERSON, IMPERIAL
CHINESE CONSUL, HONGKONG.

I was much interested in the editorial contained in the *Daily Press* of the 14th inst. concerning the "Depreciation of Gold," etc., and as one who took some part in the discussion of the "Silver question" in the United States during the "mineral" I beg leave to suggest some historic facts for the consideration of your readers about the relative values of gold and silver during the past. These facts sustain the view taken in your editorial. Later, within the next future, I shall advance some considerations as to the "beneficial effects of silver money in the past. Finally, I shall venture to point out what beneficial effects may be expected from the continuance of the prolific supplies of gold and silver now coming from the mines of the world.

If we take a view over the entire range of known history, we shall find the relation of value (rates) between the precious metals as varied from 1 silver equaling 10 gold, as was the case in the Orient more than 5000 years before the Christian Era, to 1 silver equaling 30 silver, which last mentioned figures may be said to represent the relative value of these two metals as today.

Agatharchides, a Greek who lived in the second century before Christ, tells us in a fragment of his works which has come down to us, that at one time in ancient Arabia the value of silver was tenfold that of gold, but he does not give any clue to the date to which this statement refers.

Yet as we know from other sources that as early as the eighth century before Christ, gold in the valley of the Tigris, but not elsewhere in Asia, was thirteen times as valuable as silver, we can feel certain that Agatharchides spoke of a period long, very long prior to that century. That superior value of silver must have disappeared when the products of the prolific silver mines of Greece and Spain were exchanged by that great nation of ancient commerce in the Mediterranean, the Phoenicians, for the products of the Orient, by means of the trade they carried on with the Arabians and other peoples of Western Asia; and this must have occurred as early as the fifth century before Christ.

The few notices and inferences concerning the ratio of values between the metals, which are to be gleaned from the ancient history of India, are unreliable as a basis for any precise conclusions; but it is probably safe to assume that previous to the Phoenician commerce with India, silver was more valuable in that country than gold; that during that commerce, or at least during the earlier portion of it, silver has exchanged for gold at an equal value, weight for weight, and that, owing to the prolific output of the Phoenician silver mines in Spain, and of those at Laurium in Greece, the value of silver continued to fall until about the year 500 B.C., when it stood in India about 2 silver to 1 gold, though there is authority for a considerably wider Indian ratio at that date.

And here let me point out that the ratio used by the Greek historian Herodotus, who has been called the father of history, in computing the Persian King Darius' spoil in Asia Minor and India, was the very much wider ratio prevailing in Greece at the date last mentioned, and not the ratio in India, and Asia generally. Moreover, in this connection, it is interesting to note that ancient Greek, Xenophon, who lived 443-355 B.C., says of the Grecian silver mines, "no one ever pretended from tradition or the earliest accounts of time, to determine when these mines first began to be wrought, which is a proof of their antiquity."

From the time of Alexander the Great, in the fourth century before Christ, owing to the establishment of systematic commerce between the Eastern and Western worlds, the ratio in India widened until, in the fifth century of our era, it probably stood in the neighborhood of 6 silver to 1 gold; and there it remained without very much change until the opening of the sea route from Europe to India, by the Portuguese in the sixteenth century, as the result of Vasco da Gama's discovery of the Cape of Good Hope when the ratio stood about 7 silver to 1 gold, in the course of two centuries widening to about 10 to 1. It is a notable fact that after long interruption of intercourse between the East and the West, this silver tendency to a superior value reasserted itself in the Orient. This occurred after the fall of the Roman, and before the rise of the Arabian empire, to which latter power I shall presently again refer.

Strabo, who wrote during the first century before Christ, is the next author to give any clue to the Indian ratio; and he states that in a country bordering on the Sabaean gold was worth twice as much as silver; and though he gives us no date in connection with this statement, it doubtless related to a period very long before his time.

This superior value of silver to gold, which existed at some time prior to the fifth century before Christ, seems to have been confined to the Farther East almost entirely; for with the single exception of the case of the ancient inhabitants of Germany, who are said by Tacitus, the Roman historian who wrote not long after Christ, to have valued silver more highly than gold, we have nowhere else of the former metal being held in greater estimation. And in the case of the Germans this was no doubt due to the fact that, while they found golden sands in their rivers whence the yellow metal could be taken in particles more or less easily obtained, yet being then a rude and barbarous people acquainted with any mode of extracting gold, they were practically without the latter metal, although Southern Germany has since furnished much silver to the world.

Peak Hotel, December 23rd.

CENTRAL CHINA FAMINE.

HONGKONG UNABLE TO HELP.
The following correspondence reaches us from the Colonial Office.
Telegram from H.M. Consul-General, Shanghai, dated 19th December, 1906, to Governor, Hongkong.

"Central China Famine. I confirm following telegram sent to you. Famine Relief Committee appeal to you form representative Committee Hongkong collect funds relief."

Reply from Governor, Hongkong, dated 21st December, 1906.

"In reply to your telegram of yesterday's date, regret unable to form local famine relief committee. Despatch follows by mail."

Despatch from O.A.G., Hongkong, dated 22nd December, 1906.

Sir, I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your telegram of the 19th instant, in which you request that a representative Committee should be formed in this Colony for the purpose of collecting subscriptions for the relief of the famine in Central China, and to enclose as "on clear" version of my telegram of the 21st instant sent in reply.

2. While sympathizing with the feeling of the Shanghai Community with regard to the unfortunate sufferers, I have reluctantly decided that in view of the heavy call recently made upon the generosity of the public of Hongkong in connection with the distress caused by the typhoon of September last, I should not be justified in lending my official sanction to the opening of a new subscription list at the present time.

The financial outlook in connection with the approaching Chinese New Year settlement has further tended to confirm my decision.

3. The leading Hongkong firms, as you are aware, represented in Shanghai and their subscriptions will doubtless go to swell the fund collected in your Settlement.

I have, etc.

(Sd.) F. H. May.

His Britannic Majesty's
Consul-General,
Shanghai.

REVIEWS.

The Workday Woman. By VIOLET HUNT.

London: T. Werner Laurie.

Here we have a faithful picture of the misery of the working woman's life. Miss Hunt dedicates her book to Barry Pain. It is in the first person of Catherine Courtenay, who occupies the position of companion to a certain Lady Violet Barrow. Many people will not like the tale because of its candour, and those of the fair sex who pick it up will say unkind things about the author. And she must expect it as, after reading the book, one is bound to form the impression that woman, especially when she has to work for her living, is vulgar-minded and ungenerous. Those who take the story less seriously will appreciate the novel from a humorous standpoint.

The Selling of a Devil. By MAURICE DRAKE.

London: T. Werner Laurie.

This is the 2100 "Daily Mail" Prize Novel, and was selected for publication from over six hundred manuscripts. It concerns the life of Laurence Averil, graduate and "gentleman," who goes to sea in a fishing boat, and gradually drifts on to a downward career until at length he is nothing but a blackguard and a brute. Subsequently he leaves the North Sea and with a limited credit gives himself over to a carnival of pleasure which ends in an attempt to secure wealth by means of worthless shares in a mining syndicate. The story has a grip about it that will appeal to most readers, and Mr. Drake has certainly made the best use of his knowledge of the ways of some of the North Sea fisherfolk. The only "plot" in the story is that revealed in Tennyson's "Love took up the harp of life."

The White House. By M. E. BRADDON.

London: George Bell and Sons.

One opens Miss Braddon's latest with great interest, for it has been a long life's interest to watch the development of a writer who began in early Victorian days and has maintained a steady output ever since, on an average say one novel per annum. The founder of the novel of sensation, Miss Braddon, has advanced far since "Lady Audley's Secret," but remains true to old-fashioned conventions, and we are glad to see, still insists on the ultimate triumph of virtue. There is not very much sensationalism in "The White House," which tells the story of a self-made prince of manufacturers, with an unappreciated, egotistic, and clever daughter, and a son in whom all his hopes and affection are centred. The son insists on living a life based on the teachings of the Sermon on the Mount, and to wear him from this Quixotic folly, a fashionable wife is provided. With his dreams and altruism run mad, the disillusion brought by close contact with millinery, motors, and social selfishness prompts the son to end the matter with a revolver. The father makes a rather unjust will, forbidding the daughter to marry, and it is then that the struggle between good and evil comes in, the daughter marrying secretly and sticking to the faith. After many twinges of conscience, final restitution leads to perfect love and happiness. The people incidental to the story are all very real and likeable, especially the fashionable aunt who marries the curate.

CHURCH SERVICES.

St. John's Cathedral, Hongkong.—Christmas Day. Holy Communion (7.30 a.m.) Matins (11 a.m.) Responses, Festival: Venite, Credo, Psalms, Special: Te Deum, Smart in F; Benediction, Carols in G; Anthem, "O Zion that bringest glad tidings."—Stainer, Hymns, 60. Holy Communion (12 noon) Kyrie, Adagio in F. Hymns, 68 and 50.

THE SHANGHAI FRAUDS.

At H.M. Police Court, Shanghai, on December 19th, Fred. Montier Goode was brought up on remand, charged with, on or about September 10th, 1906, feloniously forging on the back of a certain cheque a certain endorsement, which said forged endorsement was as follows: "J. Frost"—with intent to defraud, and further, on or about the same date offering and uttering, etc., the said last-mentioned forged endorsement of the said last-mentioned cheque with intent thereby to defraud.

Mr. N. C. Home, instructed by Mr. H. Brown, appeared to prosecute on behalf of the Shanghai Electric and Asbestos Company and Mr. L. Andrews (Messrs. Andrews and Brooks) appeared for the defence.

Mr. Home handed in eleven other charges preferred against the accused, which consisted of nine of embezzlement, one more of forgery, and one of false pretences.

Proceeding on the original charge of forgery, Mr. Home called A. W. W. Walkinshaw, a clerk and officer of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank at Shanghai, who said: "I knew the accused, F. M. Goode, and I know his signature. Goode had a full account of the Bank, on which at the present moment there is an overdraft. This cheque (exhibit 1) is a cheque drawn on the Bank in the ordinary form of cheques drawn by the Shanghai Electric and Asbestos Company, who have both a dollar and a tael account at the Bank. The cheque is payable to J. Frost or order, and in order for the cashed it would require the endorsement of J. Frost. This cheque bears an endorsement 'J. Frost' which corresponds to the name in the body of the cheque. I know the signature of J. Frost of the Shanghai Electric and Asbestos Company and in my opinion this endorsement is not his signature. He had not any knowledge given authority to anyone to endorse his name on cheques. This cheque was passed to the credit of a tael account in the Bank on September 10th, 1906. I know these facts from the writing and the Bank's stamp on the cheque. The pass-book now shown to me is that of the dollar account of the Shanghai Electric and Asbestos Company. It was on account of the endorsement on the cheque (exhibit 1) that \$350 was debited to the Shanghai Electric and Asbestos Company and credited to some other account. The book of paying in slips now shown to me is that of the account, F. M. Goode. There is a slip bearing date September 10th in respect of \$350 and it bears the Bank's receipt stamp. The signature on the counterfoil is that of the accused. It refers to a cheque No. 93993 (exhibit 1). I know this from an examination. I have made of the books of the Bank; only one cheque for \$350 passed through on that date. I have here a copy of the ledger account of the accused from December 31st, 1905, to October 12th, 1906. It is a true copy and has been compared by me with the accused's ledger account. It shows that on September 10th the account was credited with \$350 and the \$350 is the proceeds of the cheque I have just seen and is referred to in the counterfoil produced.

Mr. Home said that was all the evidence he proposed to call with reference to the first charge. He thought he had established a prima facie case.

Mr. Walkinshaw said the defence was reserved.

Mr. Walkinshaw then formally committed the accused for trial on the first charge of forgery.

The accused was then charged that he did on or about the 27th day of September, 1906, forge the endorsement "E. E. Porter" on a cheque for the sum of \$100 and on or about the same date did utter the said cheque.

Mr. Home said that was all the evidence he proposed to call with reference to the first charge. He thought he had established a prima facie case.

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The accused was then charged that he did on or about the 27th day of September, 1906, forge the endorsement "E. E. Porter" on a cheque for the sum of \$100 and on or about the same date did utter the said cheque.

Mr. Home said that was all the evidence he proposed to call with reference to the first charge. He thought he had established a prima facie case.

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Joe Frost, manager and a director of the Shanghai Electric and Asbestos Company, gave evidence that the cheques for \$188.32, \$100, and \$78.20 now shown to him were cheques drawn on the Shanghai branch of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank by Mr. Harold Brown as administrator of the estate of the late William Bull, payable to the Shanghai Electric and Asbestos Company, Ltd. Mr. B. H. formerly manager of the Company, was indebted to the Company in these amounts. On the back were the endorsements "Shanghai Electric and Asbestos Co., Ltd., F. M. Goode, Secretary." The signature "F. M. Goode" was in the handwriting of the accused, who had authority to endorse cheques made payable to the Company's order and to get payment of them. His duty was to pass such cheques into the tael or dollar account of the Company at the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. Witness examined the books of the Company with the auditor and found that these cheques had never been paid into the Company's account. Had they been paid into the Company's account, a record would have appeared in the Company's pass-book, but no such record appeared there. The Company had never received the proceeds of these cheques, and the loss had fallen on the Company.

At this stage His Worship adjourned the hearing until 10 a.m. next day and remarked that he would consider the question of bail at the next hearing, but would require very substantial security.

THE EWO COTTON SPINNING AND WEAVING CO., LTD.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The eleventh ordinary meeting of this company was held at the Shanghai offices of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd., on December 18th. There were present: Messrs. H. Kewick (Chairman), P. F. Lyne, A. McLeod, Lord Li Ching-fong and Zou Kwei-yang (Directors), W. N. Fleming (Secretary), J. Byrne (Auditor), M. Young, J. D. Clark, W. H. Harbison, A. L. Anderson, W. C. Murray, J. J. Kurland and J. Chen.

The Chairman—Gentlemen.—The audited account of the Ewo Cotton Spinning & Weaving Co., Ltd. for the year ending October 31st, 1906, and accompanying report, have been in the hands of shareholders for the period prescribed by our Articles of Association and with your permission we will follow the usual procedure and accept them as read. A full annual general meeting on December 10th, 1905, my predecessor announced to the shareholders that the mill production was sold for four months ahead at good, night and day working profits, and the favourable condition of markets enabling us to continue an adherence to this policy, viz., of selling yarn forward and simultaneously making certain purchases of cotton as to secure a certain profit—has resulted in the year's working account showing a large credit balance than at any previous period in the history of the mill. The price of Chinese cotton throughout the year has remained on a fairly steady level, the average being slightly lower than in 1905. The quality has been good, being notably free from moisture, while the supplies have enabled us practically to dispense with the use of the imported article. The engines, boilers and machinery have, according to custom, been thoroughly overhauled during the year, and our manager reports that all are in first-class condition and this is borne out by the fact that in maintaining everything in a most efficient state we have spent no less a sum than £18,104.70.

Turning to the figures in the account, naturally the item that most first attracted attention is the high sum at which "Yarn Stocks" stand, and in this connection I would explain that over three-quarters of this amount is sold to buyers of unquestionable security and the remainder is taken into new account at a considerable discount on current quotation.

As regards the high rate of the high rate of exchange has enabled us to import from Europe on favourable terms, while at the same time prohibiting the export of our production, but I am pleased to say that since stocktaking practically the whole of the stock under this heading has been sold at a profit on the taken over price. I trust that the shareholders will approve the conservative policy recommended by your Committee in the proposed distribution of our available balances. In transferring the sum of £1,150,000 to an account for the equalization of dividends it is our aim to place the company on the basis of a steady dividend-paying concern, in preference to distributing the whole of the profits during what has been an exceptionally proper period. The outlook for the immediate future is, as you are probably aware, by no means as favourable as at the same date last year, and your committee therefore feel justified in recommending that the substantial sum of £1,150,000 be carried forward to a new account. You will observe that the sum of £1,150,000 is still untouched, the expenses incurred during the year, having been borne by the working account. Before proposing the adoption of the report and accounts I shall be very pleased to reply to any question that shareholders may desire to ask.

There being no questions the following resolutions were carried unanimously:—

Proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mr. McLeod: That the report and accounts as published be adopted.

Proposed by Mr. W. C. Murray, seconded by Mr. H. J. Clark: That the Consulting Committee as at present constituted be re-elected.

Proposed by Mr. Harbison, seconded by Mr. H. J. Clark: That Mr. G. R. Wingrove be re-elected auditor for the current year.

The Chairman thanked those present for their attendance, and announced that dividend warrants would be posted shortly.

WEATHER REPORT.

On the 24th at 11.45 a.m.—The barometer has risen moderately to slightly over S. Japan and S. China.

The anticyclonic area is still central over the continent to the North of the Yangtze, and pressure remains low, and in considerable defect of the normal, over N.E. Japan. It is about 0.2 inch above the average over the E. coast of China.

Gradients continue rather steep and hard monsoon will be met with in the Formosa Channel and the China Sea.

Hongkong rainfall for the 24 hours ending at 10 a.m. to-day, 0.28 inches.

The forecast for the 24 hours ending at noon to-day is as follows:—

Hongkong & Neighbourhood... (S) N.E. winds, strong to a gale.

Formosa Channel... (S) N.E. winds, strong.

South coast of China between... (S) N.E. winds, strong.

South coast of China between... (S) N.E. winds, strong.

Hongkong and Hainan... (S) Same as No. 3.

(*) N.E. winds, fresh; rain at first, probably improving later.

JUST UNPACKED:—

1PL. AND POSTCARD SIZE

F. P. CAMERAS

FITTED WITH

ZEISS ANASTIGMAT TESSAR LENS, F. 6.3.

AT MODERATE PRICES.

LONG. HING & CO.

No. 17, QUEEN'S ROAD.

THE LEADING COGNAC.

18

J. & F. MARTELL'S

BRANDY ***

AS SUPPLIED TO THE HOSPITALS.

PER DOZEN - - \$28.00

10% DISCOUNT ALLOWED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

SOLE AGENTS:

H. PRICE & CO.

TELEPHONE No. 135.

361

WINE MERCHANTS,

12, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

THE LATE BISHOP HOARE.

PROPOSED MEMORIAL.

The following letter requires no explanation.

The friends and fellow-labourers in China of the late Bishop Hoare are not likely ever to forget his high Christian character, his unselfish capacity and energy, or his strong and real sympathy.

It has, nevertheless, been suggested to me by one who during many years was closely associated with the Bishop when Principal of the C. M. S. College at Ningpo, perhaps the best loved of all his missionary services, that "there ought to be some memorial raised to him," and preferably "in the College." I heartily agree with the suggestion, and approve also the particular form proposed for the Memorial.

The plans of the present College, drawn by a Shanghai architect, were submitted to me by Mr. Hoare soon after my arrival in China as Bishop.

NOTICE.

Communications respecting Advertisements, Subscriptions, Printing, Binding, &c. should be addressed to the Editor, and should be sent to the Editor's Office, not later than 11 a.m. on the day of publication. After that hour the supply is limited. Only supplied for Cash. Advertisements and Subscriptions which are not ordered for a fixed period will be continued until countermanded. Telegraphic Address: P. O. Box, 33. Telephone No. 12. P. O. Box, 33. Telephone No. 12.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

IN accordance with Government Notification No. 1956 the EXCHANGE BANKS will be CLOSED for the Transaction of Public Business on MONDAY, the 31st instant, and TUESDAY, 1st January, 1907. Hongkong, 25th December, 1906. [2339]

THE ALL NATIONS' HIGH SCHOOL AND GRADED COLLEGE.

THIS COLLEGE is now in a position to receive Pupils of all ages, either with or without board and lodging. For a thorough practical education, no better School can be found on the China Coast. Fees very moderate. Inquire at Mr. F. L. CLYDE, the Principal, at the College. Hongkong, 25th December, 1906. [2341]

PRIVATE INFORMATION BUREAU.

ANY person wishing to obtain Private Information on any subject of legal concern should apply to the SOUTH CHINA INFORMATION BUREAU, 14, Des Vaux Road Central, 2nd floor. The Bureau is managed by one who is thoroughly acquainted with the customs, habits, manners and language of the Europeans, Chinese and nearly every other nationality found in Hongkong and neighbourhood, assisted by a thoroughly competent staff. Charges very moderate. (Office hours from 2.30 to 7 p.m. daily. Hongkong, 25th December, 1906. [2342]

AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM TRIESTE, PORT SAID, SUEZ, ADEN, KARACHI, BOMBAY, COLOMBO, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE Company's Steamship

"CHINA"

having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed at their risks into the Godowns and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited, whence delivery may be obtained.

From Trieste, ex s.s. "Imperator," transhipped at Bombay.
From Venice, ex s.s. "Espero," transhipped at Trieste.
From Zanzibar, ex s.s. "Korber," transhipped at Aden.

Optional Cargo will be discharged here unless notice to the contrary be given immediately. No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Claims must be sent to the Office of the Undersigned before Noon on the 29th Dec., or they will not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance has been effected, and any Goods remaining in the Godowns after the 29th Dec. will be subject to rent.
Bills of Lading will be countersigned by SANDER, WILBER & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 23rd December, 1906. [3]

AMERICAN ASIATIC STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM NEW YORK.

THE Steamship

"RAS BERA."

Captain Morris, having arrived from the above Port, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, at Kowloon, and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 30th Dec. will be subject to rent.
All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 31st Dec., at 11 a.m.

No Fire Insurance has been effected. Bills of Lading will be countersigned by SHEWAN, TOMES & Co., Agents.
Hongkong, 24th December, 1906. [2336]

THE HONGKONG WEEKLY PRESS and CHINA OVERLAND TRADE REPORT

is now ready and contains:

- Epitome of the Week's News.
- Leading Articles—
- Western Tibet: A Review.
- Peking Suspect.
- The T'ien T'ai Hui.
- Moral Galle.
- Finance in Japan.
- Japan and Lorient.
- Tamie Chivalry.
- Hongkong Sanitary Board.
- Supreme Court.
- Fatalities in Gambling Raids.
- Indians Again in Evidence.
- Another Attempted Suicide.
- Hongkong Volunteer Corps.
- New Volunteer Head Quarters.
- Engineers' Dance.
- The Governor's Departure.
- Ship Launch at Kowloon.
- A Tentative Suicide.
- The Hongkong Chess Club.
- Correspondence.
- "Monsieur Polo."
- The A.D.C.
- Canton.
- Yokohama Dock Co.
- Commercial.
- Shipping.

Extra copies 30 cents each, Cash.

Copies can be posted from the Office to addresses sent; including postage 34 cents each, or \$1 Cash for three copies.
Subscription: \$12 per Annum, payable in advance; postage \$2.
Hongkong, 25th December, 1906.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

WANTED.

A CHINESE CLERK AND DRAUGHTSMAN in the Sanitary Department. Salary: \$430 to \$680 by \$80 annually. For Particulars apply to the Secretary, Sanitary Board.
J. M. ATKINSON, P.C.M.O.
Hongkong, 25th December, 1906. [2340]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions from the CAPTAIN SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, to sell by Public Auction, On THURSDAY, the 27th December, 1906, at Noon, at Messrs. JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.'s GODOWN G. BOWLINGTON.

1,437 Tins KEROSENE OIL.

TERMS:—As Usual.

HUGHES & HOUGH, Government Auctioneers.

Hongkong, 25th December, 1906. [2343]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to Sell by Public Auction, (FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED), On MONDAY, the 31st December, 1906, at 11 a.m., at their SALES ROOMS, No. 8, Des Vaux Road, (Corner of Lee House Street).

AN ASSORTMENT OF ARTICLES suitable for New Year's GIFTS.

Also

29 Cases PERINOT and FILS CHAM-PAGNE, 60 Cases C. G. NAC-MARIE, BRIZARD and ROGER 3 STARS, 100 Cases SCOTCH WHISKY; And

100 Boxes MESSALINA CIGARS.

Special Holiday Stock in Dainty Gift Boxes.

TERMS:—As usual.

HUGHES & HOUGH, Auctioneers.

Hongkong, 25th December, 1906. [2344]

INTIMATIONS

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

IN accordance with the Provisions of Ordinance No. 8 of 1875 the EXCHANGE BANKS will be CLOSED for the Transaction of Public Business TO-DAY (TUESDAY) and TO-MORROW (WEDNESDAY), the 25th and 26th instant respectively.

Hongkong, 25th December, 1906. [2305]

FIRE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION OF HONGKONG.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that FIRE INSURANCE OFFICES will be CLOSED for the Transaction of Public Business TO-DAY (TUESDAY) and TO-MORROW (WEDNESDAY), the 25th and 26th instant respectively.

By Order,

A. R. LOWE, Secretary.

Hongkong, 24th December, 1906. [2331]

STOCKBROKERS' ASSOCIATION OF HONGKONG.

NOTICE.

THE December Settlements will take place on FRIDAY, the 29th, By Order of the Committee.

E. S. JOSEPH, Hon. Secretary.

Hongkong, 21th December, 1906. [2332]

SCOTTISH MASONIC QUADRILLE ASSOCIATION.

THE THIRD DANCE OF THE SCOTTISH MASONIC QUADRILLE ASSOCIATION

will be held in the CITY HALL on THURSDAY, January 3rd, 1907. Members desirous of obtaining invitations are requested to do so as early as possible.

A late ferry to Kowloon will run at 1.30 a.m.

JOHN J. BLAKE, Hon. Secretary.

Hongkong, 19th December, 1906. [2301]

ZETLAND LODGE, No. 525, E.C.

A REGULAR MEETING of ZETLAND LODGE will be held at the FREE-MASONS' HALL, on THURSDAY, the 27th December, at 5.30 p.m. precisely. Visiting Brethren are cordially invited to attend.

Hongkong, 22nd December, 1906. [2338]

NOTICE.

TENDERS with Sample submitted, are invited for 50,000 AUSTRALIAN HARDWOOD SLEEPERS, name GRAY GUM or IRON BUSH size 8" by 8" feet delivery a.f.t. to be made at WONGSHEA Railway Wharf not later than end of July, 1907. Tenders in Hongkong currency will be opened on the 4th February, 1907, at 2 p.m., at the Railway Office, WONGSHEA, Canton. All Tenders must be accompanied with a Certified Cheque or Cash for \$200 as security of good faith which will be returned if Tender is not accepted. The Company is not bound to accept the lowest or any Tender.

By Order,

K. G. KWONG, Engineer in Chief.

Yuet-Han Railway, Canton, 22nd December, 1906. [2327]

GRACA & CO., DEALERS IN

PICTORIAL VIEW POSTCARDS and

POSTAGE STAMPS.

STALL AT

HONGKONG HOTEL CORRIDOR.

Hongkong, 22nd December, 1906. [2307]

H. HIPTOOLA & CO., MILLINERS AND DRAPERS,

13 and 15, D'Aguiar Street.

HAVE just unpacked a Large Assortment of LADIES' AND CHILDREN'S SHOES, and a good Stock of TOYS.

A visit from our kind Customers is solicited. PRICES REDUCED all round in conformity with the rise in Exchange.

Hongkong, 26th November, 1906. [2162]

WANTED

WANTED.

WANTED at once a Smart SHROFF.

Apply to—

COTTAM & Co., Ltd.

Hongkong, 22nd December, 1906. [2326]

WANTED.

FOR a Coast Port, a YOUNG WOMAN (European or Eurasian) to help with Sewing and look after one Child. Good references required.

Address—

Care of "Daily Press" Office.

Hongkong, 21st December, 1906. [2315]

INSURANCES

THE GLOBUS INSURANCE COMPANY, OF HAMBURG.

THE Undersigned, having been appointed AGENTS for the above Company, are prepared to ACCEPT RISKS against FIRE at Current Rates.

CARLOWITZ & Co.

Hongkong, 13th August, 1906. [1585]

L'UNION OF PARIS FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED

THE Undersigned having been appointed AGENTS for the above Company are prepared to accept Risks against Fire at current rates.

SIRMSSEN & Co.

Hongkong, 1st January, 1907. [23]

NORTH BRITISH AND MERCANTILE INSURANCE COMPANY

THE Undersigned, having been appointed AGENTS for the above Company, are prepared to ACCEPT RISKS against FIRE at Current Rates.

SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.

Hongkong, 11th July, 1906. [1349]

LACHEN and MUNICH FIRE INSURANCE CO. OF AIX-LES-BAINS

THE Undersigned, having been appointed AGENTS for the above Company, are prepared to ACCEPT RISKS against FIRE at Current Rates.

REUTER, BROCKELMAN & Co.

Hongkong, 21st April, 1907. [311]

AUCTION

PUBLIC AUCTION.

MR. GEO. P. LAMBERT has received instruction from the Executors of the Mortgagee to sell by Public Auction, On MONDAY, the 7th January, 1907, at 3 p.m., at his SALES ROOMS, Duddell Street, the FOLLOWING

VALUABLE LEASEHOLD PROPERTY Situate at Victoria in the Colony of Hongkong, namely—

All that piece or parcel of Ground situate at Victoria, aforesaid, registered in the Land Office as Island Lot No. 798; area 40,000 square feet or thereabouts. Terms 999 years annual Crown rent \$324.00, together with all the massugas thereon known as Nos. 200, 210, 212, 214, 216, 218, 220, 222, 224 and 226, THIRD STREET, Victoria, aforesaid.

For Further Particulars and Conditions of Sale, apply to

S. W. TSO, Solicitor for the Mortgagee, or to

GEO. P. LAMBERT, Auctioneer.

Hongkong, 24th December, 1906. [2334]

FOR SALE

FOR SALE.

BRICK AND STONE BUNGALOW, at the PEAK called "THE HAYSTACK" with about 2 Acres of Ground attached. Built on Farm Lots Nos. 69 & 81. For Particulars, apply to—

D. K. MOSS, Care of ALEX. ROSS & Co., 4, Des Vaux Road Central.

Hongkong, 1st December, 1906. [2203]

STORAGE.

For Coal, Timber, &c.

TO BE LET, a Portion of MARINE LOT No. 285 at NORTH POINT, Suitable for above Purpose. EXTENSIVE WATER FRONT. DEEP WATER.

Also FOR SALE, Portions of MARINE LOT Nos. 31 & 36 on PEAK EAST. Approximate AREA 45,000 SQUARE FEET. 99 YEARS' LEASE.

For Particulars, apply to—

GEO. FENWICK & Co., Ltd.

Hongkong, 8th June, 1906. [153]

ON SALE

BOUND VOLUMES of the HONGKONG WEEKLY PRESS, January to June 1906.

With INDEX. Price \$7.50. On sale at the Hongkong Daily Press Office.

Hongkong 27th July, 1906.

TO LET

TO LET

2ND FLOOR of No. 6, ICE HOUSE STREET; Centrally situated and within easy reach of the principal Banks and business houses. Apply on the premises to—

J. A. TATA & Co.

Hongkong, 24th December, 1906. [2333]

TO LET.

No. 32, CAINE ROAD.

4 New Homes in KENNEDY ROAD, near Wan Chai. 18, McDONNELL ROAD, "TANG YUEN."

Apply to—

SAM WANG CO., LTD., 81, Queen's Road Central.

Hongkong, 13th November, 1906. [2087]

TO LET

TO LET.

ONE GODOWN at East Point close to the Water suitable for the storage of any Cargo. Floor Area 6,100 square feet.

Apply to—

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.

Hongkong, 19th October, 1906. [1922]

TO LET.

(EITHER IN WHOLE OR IN PART).

"THE ACACIAS" and "THE GROVE," having 26 Rooms, with detached Out-Houses and Kitchens, situated in Robinson Road, Kowloon. Well ventilated, with Electric Lights and Bells completely installed.

Apply to—

E. M. HAZELAND, No. 35, Queen's Road Central, or to

WING-ON, Contractor, No. 34, D'Aguiar Street.

Hongkong, 19th July, 1906. [1436]

TO LET.

"GLENWOOD" CAINE ROAD, suitable for a Boarding House or Club.

"AIDSHALL" No. 111 PEAK (Furnished) from 1st March, 1907, for about 20 months.

No. 3, CLERKENWELL VILLAS, PEAK.

No. 7, DES VEAUX VILLAS, PEAK.

No. 4, CONDUIT ROAD.

No. 3, ARBUTHNOT ROAD.

No. 73, WYNDHAM STREET.

BEACONSFIELD ARCADE, Fine Shops.

Offices and Dwelling Rooms.

No. 15, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, Top Floor, (over Caldwell Macgregor).

No. 17A, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, Rooms on Front Part, Top Floor, (over Aches).

BEILHOS TERRACE HOUSES, ROBINSON ROAD.

TO LET OR FOR SALE.

NEW HOUSE on MOUNT KELLET, Five Rooms, on Rural Building Lot No. 117.

Apply to—

LINSTEAD & DAVIS, 3rd Floor, Alexandra Building.

Hongkong, 2nd November, 1906. [2028]

TO LET ON LEASE.

FROM 1st JANUARY, 1907.

NOS. 6, 8, 10, 12 and 14, HOLLYWOOD ROAD.

No. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 SUN WAI LANE.

Apply to—

ARRATON V. APAR & Co., 45, Wyndham Street.

Hongkong, 24th October, 1906. [1967]

TO LET.

RAVENSHILL WEST No. 3, PARK ROAD.

Apply to—

DEACON, LOOKER & DEACON, Hongkong, 5th December, 1906. [2224]

TO BE LET, FURNISHED.

FROM THE 2ND WEEK IN APRIL NEXT.

"IAN MOR" PEAK ROAD, Six Good Rooms, 3 Bath Rooms, Drying and Store Rooms, Grass Tennis Court. Moderate rental to good tenant.

Apply to—

HUMPHREYS' ESTATE & FINANCE CO., LD.

Hongkong, 18th December, 1906. [390]

TO LET.

No. 2, MACDONNELL ROAD.

Apply to—

COMPRADORE'S DEPARTMENT, Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hongkong, 3rd June, 1906. [80]

TO LET.

No. 1, WEST END TERRACE, Shamoen, Canton.

Apply to—

HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LD.

Hongkong, 11th December, 1906. [2254]

TO LET.

No. 3, MACDONNELL ROAD, from February 1907, Six Rooms, Servant's Quarter and Garden; Nice Location. Electric Light installed.

Apply to—

"K," Toyo Kisen Kaisha, York Buildings.

Hongkong, 3rd December, 1906. [2214]

TO LET.

2ND FLOOR No. 12, Queen's Road Central.

SEMI-DETACHED BUNGALOW (Sir C. P. Charter), Robinson Road, Kowloon.

HONGKONG
BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

AUCTIONEER.

C. DE M. C. VIEIRA-RIBEIRO,
Auctioneer, Consignments solicited. Account
Sales rendered and settlement effected
promptly. No. 84, Queen's Road
Central, Hongkong.

BOOKBINDING.

"DAILY PRESS" OFFICE.
The only office in China having European
taught workmen. Equal to Home
work.

IRON MERCHANTS.

SINGON & CO.,
Iron, Steel, Metal and Hardware
Merchants. Wholesale and Retail
Ironmongers. Pig Iron and Foundry
Coke Importers. General Store-
keepers and Commission Agents.
35 & 37, Ring Road Street
(1st Street, West of Central
Market). Telephone No. 515.

PHOTOGRAPHER.

M. MUMBY, JAPANESE ARTIST.
Portrait and Crayon Enlargements and
also colouring Photos and relief Photos.
Views of China and Mania. Work
done for Amateurs. No. 84, Queen's
Road Central.

PRINTING.

"DAILY PRESS" OFFICE.
Proofs read by Englishmen.

TYPEWRITERS.

F. A. V. RIBEIRO,
Typewriting Work Undertaken. Cleaned,
Repaired, Overhauled. Charges moderate.
Date of the Hongkong Typewriting
Bureau. 84, Queen's Road Central
(First Floor).

WINE MERCHANTS.

GREGOR & CO.,
Wine and Spirit Merchants.
19, Queen's Road Central, Hongkong.

AUTOMATIC MAUSER
PISTOLS.

CALIBRE 7.63 mm.
With CHAMBER for 10 CARTRIDGES
FIRING 10 SHOTS IN 2 SECONDS.
SIEMSEN & CO.
Hongkong, 3rd October, 1906. 45

NEW CARTRIDGES.

BY Popular English Manufacturers. In
all Bore and Sizes.
SMOKELESS POWDER and CHILLED
SHOT. From No. 12 to .550. At \$5, \$7 and
\$7.50 per 100. SPORTING REQUISITES
and AIR GUNS in Variety.
Inspection Invited.
WM. SCHMIDT & CO.
Hongkong, 26th October, 1906. 1924

DAVID CORSE & SON'S
MERCHANT NAVY
NAY BOILED
LONG FLAK
RELIANCE CROWN
TARPAULING
ARNHOLD, KARBBERG & CO
Sole Agents.
2235

PURE FRESH WATER.

THE HONGKONG STEAM WATER
BOAT CO., Ltd., is prepared to supply
any Quantity of PURE FRESH WATER
to the Shipping, both for Dock and
Boilers.
Call Flag—W.

J. W. KEW,

Manager,
Hotel Mansions, 3rd Floor.
Hongkong, 8th August, 1906. 2224

FOR THE FESTIVE SEASON

LADIES' AND GENTS' BOOTS
AND SHOES.



PERFUMERY & TOILET REQUISITES

EASTMAN KODAKS, CAMERAS
AND
PHOTOGRAPHIC GOODS.

PRICES MODERATE.

A TACK & CO.,
25, DER VORDE ROAD CENTRAL.
Hongkong, 20th December, 1906. 139

MITSUBISHI GOSHI-KWAISHA
(MITSUBISHI CO.)COAL DEPARTMENT
MARUNOUCHI, TOKIO.

Cable Address: "IWASAKI,"
which applies to all Branch Offices.
1, ABC 5th Ed. Western Union Codes used.
All Letters Addressed to:
MANAGER, MITSUBISHI CO.,
with name of office under
BRANCH OFFICES—
NAGASAKI, MOJI, KOBÉ, KAPATSU
(SHANGHAI, HONGKONG, LD.
HANKOW).
AGENCY—

YOKOHAMA: M. ASADA, Esq.,
CHINKING: Messrs. GEARING & Co.
MANILA: Messrs. MACDONALD & Co.
SOLE PROPRIETORS of Takahama,
Ochi, Shirose, Nambu and Kami-Yama
Collieries, and also Hoko Colliery, which
will shortly be ready to produce on a large scale the
best Bazen Coal.

The Head and branch Offices and the
Agencies of the Company will receive any order
for Coals produced from the above Collieries.
T. MATSUKI, Manager, Hongkong.
No. 2, Fodder Street.

NOTICES TO CONSIGNEES

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD, BREMEN.
IMPERIAL GERMAN MAIL LINE.
NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE Steamship

"SEYDLITZ,"
having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are
hereby informed that their Goods, with the
exception of Opium, Treasure and Valuables,
are being landed and stored at their risk, into
the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns
of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and
Godown Co., Ltd., Kowloon, whence delivery
may be obtained.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless
notice to the contrary be given before THURSDAY,
the 20th Dec., at 3 P.M.
No Claims must be submitted after the Goods
have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining
undelivered after the 27th Dec. will be subject
to rent.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are
to be left in the Godowns, where they will be
examined on the 27th Dec., at 3 P.M.
All Claims must be submitted after the Goods
have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining
undelivered after the 27th Dec. will be subject
to rent.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.
Bills of Lading will be countersigned by the
undersigned.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD,
MELCHERS & CO.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 20th December, 1906. 15

HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE.

THE H.A.L. Steamship

"SPEZIA,"
Captain Malchow, having arrived, Consignees of
Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills
of Lading for countersignature by the Under-
signed and to take immediate delivery of their
Goods from the Godowns.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless
notice to the contrary be given before THURSDAY,
the 20th Dec., at 3 P.M.
Any Cargo impeding later discharges will be
invoiced into the hazardous and/or extra hazard-
ous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon
Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, and
stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

All Claims must be presented within ten days
of the steamer's arrival here, after which date
they cannot be recognized.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods
have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining
undelivered after the 27th Dec. will be subject
to rent.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are
to be left in the Godowns, where they will be
examined on the 27th Dec., at 3 P.M.
No Fire Insurance has been effected.

HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE,
Hongkong Office.
Hongkong, 20th Dec. 1906. 2312

"SHIRE" LINE OF STEAMERS.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM MIDDLESBRO, ANTWERP
AND LONDON.

THE Steamship

"CARNARVONSHIRE,"
Captain Jackson, having arrived from the
above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby
informed that their Goods are being landed at
their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong
and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company,
Limited, at Kowloon, and stored at Consignees'
risk and expense.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods
have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining
undelivered after the 27th Dec. will be subject
to rent.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are
to be left in the Godowns, where they will be
examined on the 27th Dec., at 2.30 P.M.
No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by
SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 21st December, 1906. 2325

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamer

"BORNEO,"
FROM ANWER, P. L. NDON, MALTA,
PORT SAID, SUEZ & STRAITS.

Consignees of Cargo by the above-named
vessel are hereby informed that their goods are
being landed and placed at their risk in the
Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown
Company's Godowns at Kowloon where each
consignment will be sorted out mark by mark,
and delivery can be obtained as soon as the
goods are landed.

Optional goods will be landed here unless
instructions are given to the contrary before
6 hours.

Goods not cleared by the 27th inst., at 4 P.M.,
will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by me in
any case whatever.

Damaged packages must be left in the Go-
downs for examination by the Consignees and
the Company's representative at an appointed
hour. All claims must be presented within ten
days of the steamer's arrival here, after which
date they cannot be recognized. No claims
will be admitted after the goods have left the
Godowns.

E. A. HEWETT,
Superintendent.
Hongkong, 21st December, 1906. 1

PRINTING

AND

BOOKBINDING

OF

ALL DESCRIPTIONS

BUSINESS CIRCULARS,

COMPANY PROSPECTUSES,

COMPANY REPORTS & BALANCE SHEETS,

BILLS OF LADING,

FIRE & MARINE INSURANCE FORMS.

STOREKEEPERS' PRICE LISTS,

COMMERCIAL CODES,

COMMERCIAL REPORTS,

COMMERCIAL FORMS OF ANY KIND,

ALSO

MENU CARDS, VISITING CARDS, INVITATION

CARDS, &c.

LEDGERS & ACCOUNT BOOKS

MADE TO ORDER

PERIODICALS BOUND AND BOOKS OF

ALL KINDS RE-BOUND

IN THE BEST MATERIAL.

Estimates furnished on Application to the
Printing Department "HONGKONG DAILY
PRESS" Office.

SCIENTIFIC MISCELLANY.

ALGERIAN FRUIT-SOAP—IN RADIUMLAND—
ICE-PRESERVED FLOWERS—THE PLANT-
FOOD PROBLEM—A NEW STATE OF MATTER—
HANDY HYDROGEN—KEROSENE GAS-
LIGHT—IMPROVED LIGHT-TUBES—SUGAR-
HIDDEN.

The commercial production of vegetable soap
in powder and cakes, especially as a family
industry, is the novel recommendation of a
French chemist, after an investigation for the
Algerian government. The *Sapiadus utilis*, an
imported tree, begins bearing at the age of six,
and at its best may yield each year 200 pounds
or more of a small fleshy fruit. The now
abundant product has not been utilized, although
similar to the soap substitutes of China, Japan,
India and the Antilles. The powdered fruit in
water gave a soapy solution, which acted
slowly on account of containing a gummy sub-
stance, but on roasting before grinding, the
powder with warm water quickly yielded a
frothy liquid, which proved excellent
for washing, and was free from risk of injury
to colored fabrics. The powder is easily made
into cakes with water. Much more saponin
was found than in the Oriental fruit, with
indications of another constituent having the
same soap-like properties as saponin.

The radium mines at Joachimstal, in Austria,
recently supplied the Vienna Academy of
Sciences with ten tons of uranium ore, and this
has yielded a quarter of a million dollars
worth of radium, which is to be used for
research. The mines are being converted into
a radium cure resort. A local laboratory for
producing radium salts has been established,
and the springs are serving as medicinal
baths.

Of the ice kept flowers of Verrier a French
florist, China peonies have been most abundant
some being fairly preserved after five months
in the refrigerator. In his latest experiments,
he has cut peonies with about 16 inches long,
putting them in water, trimming the ends
every three weeks, and renewing water each
month.

The world's greatest store of nitrogenous
plant food—the nitrate of soda, or saltpetre
beds of Chili—is expected to become ex-
hausted within a third of a century. To provide
a new supply is therefore a problem of im-
mediate concern, and for a number of years
electricians have been striving to solve it by
using the electric spark for oxidizing or
"fixing" the nitrogen of the air. Experiments
at Niagara Falls, in Italy and in Germany
have proven commercially successful. Last
year a factory was started at Notodden, in
Norway, for making calcium nitrate from air
and limestone by means of the electric arc
flames, and this has given results so promising
that new works, using 30,000 horse-power, will
soon be opened. The calcium nitrate, which
proves equal to the soda saltpetre as a ferti-
lizer, is now produced at a factory cost of
\$20 per ton. A rival process is that of Drs.
Caro and Frank who begin with calcium carbide,
a cheap product of the electric furnace, and
by heating this already common material red-
hot they cause it to take up atmospheric
nitrogen. The new combination of calcium,
carbon and nitrogen, called calcium cyanamide,
is a good and probably economical fertilizer.
A possible future addition to our plant nitrogen
may come from saving the waste in sewage,
which now pollutes our streams instead of
feeding our crops, becoming finally lost in
the ocean.

The interesting result is reached by Prof.
Quincke, of Heidelberg, that water and all other
liquids pass through an intermediate stage
before solidifying. In this they split up into
what may be called foam-balls, giving a viscous
structure resembling jelly, and in a coiled
metal, as in quickly solidified steel, some of
these cells remain even in the solid state.
This may explain the allotropic modifications
noted in different specimens of the same metal.

In an incandescent oil lamp now being tested
in Scotland, kerosene is vaporized by a jet of
carbonic acid before reaching the mantle. A
jet of oil yields a light of 200 candle-power
for 45 hours.

Not least of the products evolved by M.
Moissan with the electric furnace is calcium
hydride, a simple compound of hydrogen
and calcium. The commercial manufacture
has been worked out in two stages, the metal
calcium being first produced by the electrolysis
of fused calcium chloride, and the metal so
obtained being then converted into hydride
by heating in a horizontal retort through
which is passed a current of hydrogen. The
product is in the form of hard grey or white
lumps, which have been called hydroliths. The
lumps contain about 90 per cent of pure
calcium hydride and they have the peculiar
property of giving off the hydrogen when
placed in water, yielding about one cubic
meter of gas per kilogram (2.2 lbs.). The
material is practically unaffected by other
ordinary solvents. The hydroliths furnish a
convenient method of transporting hydrogen,
and are expected to be generally adopted
for military ballooning. They have proven
very efficient both for initial inflation,
and for adding more gas while the balloon is
still in air.

In the search for economical light, the
mercury-vapor lamp seems far to have
produced more light at less cost than any other
but the lack of red rays gives it disagreeably
appearance. Two German electricians, Prof.
E. Gehrke and E. von Bayer, claim a remedy in
the addition of zinc to the mercury electrode.
They mix about 10 per cent of bismuth and
a trace of sodium with the zinc, and using a
current of not more than 100 volts, they find the
light of the tubes not different from that of
small arc lamps, while it is superior in taking
very little current and being perfectly steady.
The experiments are still in progress.

Caster oil powder, according to a new H. Oland
patent, is prepared by precipitating the waste
of a liter of skimmed milk, then adding 5
milligrams of 10 per cent sodium carbonate
solution and 40 grams of milk sugar,
and incorporating 80 grams of caster oil.
The mass is dried and powdered.

YUAN SHIH KAI'S FAITH.

AN INTERESTING SKETCH.

The Peking correspondent of the *Shanghai
Mercury* sends the following interesting article
to that journal:—

Certain Diplomats and other members of the
foreign community as well as some of the native
inhabitants of Peking, have mistaken Viceroy
Yuan Shih Kai's display of faith in the newly-
appointed heads of Boards as an indication of
the weakening of his own power. The recent
reappointment of his Memorial, that he be
reappointed from certain arduous duties which
demanded a divided attention with his Viceroyal
duties has led to a misunderstanding of the
position he has now taken in regard to the
reorganization of government.

Viceroy Yuan was granted the relief because
of the great good he has done to and for China.
His belief, that a Central Government is the
salvation of the country is proven beyond doubt,
by this last step he has taken. He has been
able, with the aid of the Throne, to carry out a
long cherished plan.

Had E. Yuan continued holding those
multifarious offices which he was connected with
initially, what would reorganization have meant
to China. Only yesterday there was a general
misconception of the real policy of the govern-
ment, the Imperial Edict ordering the reform
was called into force, and the change of titles which
it demanded, seemed to show a complete ignor-
ance of the lawless country, with a people design-
ing the old and not admitting the new, a country
still controlled by its ancestors' shades, and
these highly magnified.

To the Liberal, the effect of the decree seem-
ed to be to bill the Conservatives congratulated
themselves that their house upon the sands was at
least well built. To day, the Liberals are finding
themselves mistaken, and the Conservatives are
wondering over that house upon the sands.
The Edict distinctly stated that one man
could hold but one responsible position. He
could be but one head and of one Board—
how then could Yuan Shih Kai constantly
continue to hold the reins of government over
so many offices, without ignoring the decree
from the Throne, the Decree for which he him-
self is practically responsible. Just at this time,
when confidence in the people, Representative
government is the skyline toward which all
China is looking. How better to take the first
step, than by teaching the heads of Boards to
rely upon themselves, and showing them the
responsibility of their positions. The child must
first be taught to stand before he can learn to walk.

H. Yuan does not press an example, but
he has become one for the nation's welfare. His
Viceroyal duties alone are quite enough for one
man. No one can accuse him of being short-
sighted. At a glance it will be seen that the
most of these who are presidents of Boards are
his own picked men. As Army Commander, was
his power at the greater than it is today with
Tieh Liang, head of the Board of War, and
Wang Shih Tchong vice-president. In the
years past, just what relation has Tieh Liang
borne to H. E. Has all that been changed? As
Councillor in the Board of Revenue had he
more strength than now, with Tieh Liang,
a rising star of the Board of Finance, awaiting
the arrival of P. Liang, whose past has been
Lieutenant-General of Communications, and
Tang Shao yung being not only his vice-head but
holding the same office in the Board of Foreign
Affairs and director generalship of all railways?

Shu Shih Chang, president of the Board of
Agriculture and Two Pin Ching its vice-president
are especially noted for their emir toward
H. E. Yuan. Vice-President of Board of
Education, T'ao Chin, president of Board of
Dependencies and Yang Shih Ching, director
general of the Imperial Telegraph, hold
trustworthy positions in his office. Not only
are these men as mentioned his most con-
fidential supporters but at his playing of the
pipes, Yang Shih Shiang, Governor of Shan
Tung, Wang Shih Ching, Governor of Kiangsu,
Chen Kuei Lun, Governor of Kiangsu, T'ao
Fang, vicerey of the two Kiang, Chou Fah,
vicerey of the Kwang, and many others are
willing to dance.

H. E. Yuan is in much the same position now
as was Wen Wang, the ancient founder of the
dynasty. Said he one day, "Shou has
hundreds and thousands and myriads of minds;
I have three thousand and myriads of minds;
but one mind." So it is with Chieh Yuen,
his ministers have but one mind, that mind is
Yuan Shih Kai.

Naturally various opinions have arisen since
the issuing of the rescript, those who are looking
for a simplification of China's governmental
affairs are rejoicing at this decided move toward
centralization. In their minds it is the one
policy for the country to adopt. They realize
the importance of a responsible head. "A
house divided against itself cannot stand."
China cannot be provincially governed and go
on into peace and prosperity.

A few are fond of giving illustrations of
provincial authority and suggesting that in its
perfection is the real future of China. They
cite one instance especially wherein the personal
assurances of H. E. Yuan, carried sufficient
weight to cause the withdrawal of the allied
troops from North China last year.

Some are predicting calamity for China if he
be deprived of power. Supposing that were
the case, how not China survived the centuries,
is there any reason to believe that he and is
within a year?

Despite the feeling which has been aroused by
the rescript, in some quarters, Yuan Shih Kai
has put them into practice, even at the sacrifice
of the innumerable flowers and titles which
though held by him were not conformable to the
demands necessary for a change in government.

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THE HONGKONG & CHINA GAS CO., LTD.

NOTICE.

WE BEG TO NOTIFY Consumers and the Public that on and from 1st JANUARY,
1907, the PRICE of GAS will be REDUCED to \$2.75 per 1,000 Cubic Feet.

The Company takes this opportunity of pointing out the advantages in Cheap-
Safety of Gas Lighting over any other form of illuminant, and of inviting inspection of its
Show-Rooms at West Point, and Yau-mai, Kowloon, in which can be seen every description
of Gas Apparatus suitable for Lighting, Heating, or Cooking.

GEORGE CURRY,
Local Secretary.

Hongkong, 13th December, 1906.

Brimful of Nourishment
PLASMON
The Food for Old and Young.
(Also Plasmon Cocoa, Oats, Biscuits, &c.)

HARBOUR MASTER'S DEPARTMENT.

INFORMATION has been received from
the MILITARY AUTHORITIES that
GUN PRACTICE will be carried out as
under:—

On MONDAY, TUESDAY and WED-
NESDAY, the 28th, 29th and 30th January,
1907.

From Albion Battery, in a Westerly
direction, at ranges up to 4,000 yards,
commencing at 7 P.M., and finishing at
9.30 P.M.

On THURSDAY, the 31st January, FRI-
DAY and SATURDAY the 1st and 2nd Feb-
ruary, from Lygonia, in a North-Easterly
direction, at ranges up to 3,000 yards,
commencing at 7 P.M., and finishing at
9.30 P.M.

On MONDAY, TUESDAY and WED-
NESDAY, the 4th, 5th and 6th February:—
From Albion Battery, in a Westerly
direction, at ranges up to 4,000 yards,
commencing at 7 P.M., and finishing at
9.30 P.M.

On THURSDAY, FRIDAY and SATUR-
DAY, the 7th, 8th and 9th February:—
From Lygonia, in a North-Easterly
direction, at ranges up to 3,000 yards,
commencing at 7 P.M., and finishing at
9.30 P.M.

If the weather is unfavourable on any of the
above dates, practice will take place on the
following day.

All ships, junks and other vessels are to keep
clear of the ranges.

CHARLES WILLIAM RECKWITH,
Lieutenant, R.N.
Harbour Master, &c.
Hongkong, 20th December, 1906. 2308

Cunliffe, Russell & Co.

10 & 12, Place de la Bourse,
PARIS.

SECURITIES ISSUED BY PARIS
European Govts and
Municipalities offering
prospects of immense returns. PAMPHLETS

To be purchased for cash or on the
"Times" system of monthly payments.

CUNLIFFE, RUSSELL & CO. being the oldest estab-
lished firm of dealers in Premium Bonds in the
world, offer advantages absolutely un-
obtainable elsewhere. Bonds guaranteed
Exceptional facilities for payment. Numbers
checked at every drawing. Results of Draw-
ings in English. Holders of drawn Bonds ad-
vised at once. Prizes collected free of charge.
Bonds purchased "at sight." Loans granted
on Premium Bonds. Services continue until
last Bond drawn. All transactions confidential.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL	REMARKS.
YOKOHAMA VIA SHANGHAI, DELTA	DELTA	About 28th	Freight and
MOJI and KOBE	Capt. C. L. Daniel	December	Passage.
LONDON, &c., via usual ports	DELHI	Noon, 29th	See Special
of Call	Capt. J. D. Andrews, R.N.R.	December	Advertisement.
LONDON and ANTWERP	NAMUR	About 3rd	Freight and
VIA SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, PORT SAID and	Capt. H. W. Knorr, R.N.R.	January	Passage.
MAISELLES			
SHANGHAI, MOJI, KOBE and JAWA		About 5th	Freight and
YOKOHAMA	Capt. S. Barcham	January	Passage.

For further Particulars, apply to

E. A. HEWETT,
Superintendent.

Hongkong, 25th December, 1906.

CHINA NAVIGATION CO. LIMITED.

FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL
MANILA, NINGPO and SHANGHAI	"TEAN"	On 26th Dec. 4 P.M.
SHANGHAI, TSINGTAO and CHEFOO	"KWANGSE"	On 26th Dec. 4 P.M.
CHU and LINGLO	"YINGCHOW"	On 26th Dec. 4 P.M.
SHANGHAI and KOBE	"KAIKONG"	On 27th Dec. 4 P.M.
YOKOHAMA and KOBE	"CHIAOSHING"	On 28th Dec. 4 P.M.
MANILA, ZAMBOANGA, PORT DARWIN, THURSDAY ISLAND, COOKTOWN, CAIKINS, TOWNSVILLE, BRISBANE, SYDNEY and MELBOURNE	"CHANGSHA"	On 30th Dec. daylight.

The attention of Passengers is directed to the superior accommodation offered by these steamers, which are fitted throughout with Electric Light. Unrivalled Table. A duly qualified Surgeon is carried.

Taking Cargo on through bills of lading to all Yangtze and Northern China Ports.

Taking Cargo and Passengers at through rates or all New Zealand Ports and other Australian Ports.

REDUCED SALOON FARES, SINGLE AND RETURN, TO MANILA AND AUSTRALIAN PORTS.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
AGENTS

Hongkong, 25th December, 1906.

OSAKA SHOSHEN KAISHA.

REGULAR STEAMSHIP SERVICE BETWEEN
HONGKONG, SOUTH CHINA COAST PORTS
AND FORMOSA.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG—
SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

FOR	THE CO'S S.S.	LEAVING
SHANGHAI VIA SWATOW, AMOY AND FOCHOW	"SOSHU MARU"	WEDNESDAY, 28th Dec. at DAYLIGHT.
ANPING VIA SWATOW	"FUKUSHU MARU"	SUNDAY, 30th Dec. at DAYLIGHT.

* These Steamers have excellent accommodation for First and Second Class Passengers, and are fitted throughout with electric light. First-class Saloon Amidehips. Unrivalled Table.

Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to all Yangtze and Northern China Ports.

For Freight, Passage, and further information, apply at the Company's local Branch Office, at Second Floor, No. 1, Queen's Buildings.

Hongkong, 25th December, 1906.

T. ARIMA, Manager.

PASSENGER SEASON 1907.

PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION CO.

THROUGH STEAMER

FOR
MARSEILLES AND LONDON.
VIA COLOMBO AND BOMBAY.

THE STEAMSHIP

"MACEDONIA,"

10,500 TONS, CAPT. C. D. BENNETT, R.N.R.

WILL BE DESPATCHED AT NOON,

ON
SATURDAY, 23RD MARCH,

AND IS DUE IN MARSEILLES ON THE 20TH APRIL AND LONDON ON THE 27TH APRIL.

IN ADDITION TO GIVING PASSENGERS AN OPPORTUNITY OF SPENDING ABOUT 24 HOURS IN BOMBAY THIS VESSEL WILL MAKE A FAST RUN TO MARSEILLES AND LONDON. THE VOYAGE FROM HONGKONG TO MARSEILLES SHOULD BE COMPLETED IN 28 DAYS AND TO LONDON IN 35 DAYS.

FARES:

TO MARSEILLES—£61 First and £42 Second Saloon,
TO LONDON—£95 First and £44 Second Saloon.

For Further Particulars, apply to

E. A. HEWETT,
Superintendent.

Hongkong, 11th October, 1906.

IMPERIAL GERMAN MAIL LINES.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD, BREMEN.
EUROPEAN LINE.

STEAM FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO,
ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID, NAPLES, GENOA,
ANTWERP, BREMEN/HAMBURG.

STEAMERS WILL ALSO CALL AT GIBRALTAR & SOUTHAMPTON
TO LAND PASSENGERS AND LUGGAGE

TAKING CARGO ON THROUGH BILLS OF LADING FOR ALL EUROPEAN,
NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICAN PORTS.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG—SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

STEAMERS.	SAILING DATES.
PRINZ EITEL FRIEDRICH	WEDNESDAY 2nd January
SEYDLITZ	WEDNESDAY 16th January
PRINZ HEINRICH	WEDNESDAY 30th January
GNEISENAU	WEDNESDAY 13th February
PRINZESS ALICE	WEDNESDAY 27th February
PRINZ LUDWIG	WEDNESDAY 13th March
PRINZ REGENT LUITPOLD	WEDNESDAY 27th March
PRINZ EITEL FRIEDRICH	WEDNESDAY 10th April
	WEDNESDAY 24th April
	WEDNESDAY 8th May

ON WEDNESDAY, the 2nd day of JANUARY, 1907, at NOON, the Steamship "PRINZ EITEL FRIEDRICH," Captain Malchow, with MAILS, PASSENGERS, SPECIFIC and CARGO, will leave this Port at noon, calling at NAPLES and GENOA. Shipping Orders will be granted till noon, on MONDAY, the 31st Dec. Cargo and will be received at the Agency's Office until noon, on TUESDAY, the 1st Jan. Contents of Packages are required. No Parcel Receipts will be signed for less than \$2.50. Parcels should not exceed Two Feet Cubic in Measurement.

The Steamship has splendid accommodation, and carries a Doctor and Stewardess.

RATES OF PASSAGE MONEY FROM HONGKONG:	1st Class	2nd Class	3rd Class
TO NAPLES, GENOA AND GIBRALTAR	\$21 0 0	\$12 0 0	\$8 0 0
TO SOUTHAMPTON, LONDON, BREMEN	\$21 0 0	\$12 0 0	\$8 0 0
AND HAMBURG	\$21 0 0	\$12 0 0	\$8 0 0
TO NEW YORK VIA SUEZ	\$50 0 0	\$28 0 0	\$18 0 0
VIA NAPLES, GENOA OR GIBRALTAR	\$50 0 0	\$28 0 0	\$18 0 0
VIA BREMEN OR SOUTHAMPTON	\$50 0 0	\$28 0 0	\$18 0 0

* In the event of the passenger leaving the Mail Steamer at Naples, Genoa or GIBRALTAR and GENOA or GIBRALTAR, but in this case the cost of the railway trip, etc., to be at passenger's expense.

TOUR VIA INDIA.

Passengers have the option of using a Steamer of the British India S. N. Co., from SINGAPORE TO CALCUTTA instead of an Imperial Mail Steamer from Singapore to Colombo. The cost of the journey from Calcutta to Colombo by rail or steamer is, however, not included.

INTERPRETATION OF THE VOYAGE IN EGYPT:

Passengers from ALEXANDRIA, to Naples or Marseilles instead of using an Imperial Mail Steamer from PORT SAID.

JAPAN-CHINA-AUSTRALIAN LINE. VIA NEW GUINEA.

FOR MANILA, SIMPSONHAFEN, FRIEDRICH WILHELMSHAFEN,
BRISBANE, SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG—(SUBJECT TO ALTERATION).

STEAMERS	SAILING DATES
SANDAKAN	1793 tons ... FRIDAY, 4th Jan.
MANILA	1793 tons ... FRIDAY, 1st Feb.
PRINZ WALDEMAR	3277 tons ... THURSDAY, 28th Feb.

ON FRIDAY, the 4th JANUARY, at NOON, the Steamship "SANDAKAN," Captain Wandig, with Mails, Passengers and Cargo, will leave this port at noon, calling at MANILA and SIMPSONHAFEN.

The Steamship has splendid accommodation and carries a Doctor and a Stewardess.

RATES OF PASSAGE MONEY FROM HONGKONG:

TO	1st Class	2nd Class	3rd Class
TO MANILA	\$50.00	\$30.00	\$20.00
TO NEW GUINEA	\$50.00	\$30.00	\$20.00
TO BRISBANE	\$50.00	\$30.00	\$20.00
TO SYDNEY	\$50.00	\$30.00	\$20.00
TO MELBOURNE	\$50.00	\$30.00	\$20.00
TO YOKOHAMA	\$50.00	\$30.00	\$20.00
TO KOBE	\$50.00	\$30.00	\$20.00
TO YOKOHAMA and back from KOBE	\$50.00	\$30.00	\$20.00
TO HONGKONG	\$50.00	\$30.00	\$20.00

THROUGH RATES OF PASSAGE MONEY FROM HONGKONG:

TO EUROPE VIA AUSTRALIA AND COLOMBO by Imperial Mail Steamer 237 0 0.

From Australia to New York via Vancouver by the J.P.R. Co's steamers, or via San Francisco by the O. & S.S. Co's steamers, and from New York to Europe by the Magnificent Express Steamers of N.D.L.

SAILINGS OUTWARDS.

EUROPEAN & AUSTRALIAN SERVICE

SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, "PRINZ HEINRICH" ... Wednesday, 2nd Jan.

SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, "GNEISENAU" ... Wednesday, 16th Jan.

Kobe & Yokohama, "GNEISENAU" ... Wednesday, 16th Jan.

Trans-Pacific Through Tickets from Hongkong via Vancouver or San Francisco to New York by the J.P.R. Co's steamers, or via San Francisco by the O. & S.S. Co's steamers, and from New York to Europe by the Magnificent Express Steamers of the

Norddeutscher Lloyd are issued at the following rates:—

To London via Plymouth or Southampton 1st Class

To Bremen 1st Class

To Paris via Cherbourg 1st Class

To Naples, Genoa via Gibraltar 1st Class

Passage money payable in local currency at current sight Bank, rate of Exchange on the day of payment.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.

For further Particulars, apply to

MELOHERS & CO., AGENTS.

PASSENGER SEASON 1907.

IN 25 DAYS TO ITALY

BY THE

MAGNIFICENT N.D.L. LINERS:

"PRINZESS ALICE" 10,911, ON MARCH 13TH.

CAPT. CH. POLACK.

"PRINZ LUDWIG" 10,500, ON MARCH 27TH.

CAPT. VON BINZER.

CALLING AT NAPLES, GENOA, GIBRALTAR AND
SOUTHAMPTON TO LAND PASSENGERS.

EARLY BOOKING RECOMMENDED.

FOR PARTICULARS, APPLY TO

Hongkong, 12th October, 1906.

MELOHERS & CO.,
AGENTS.

1202

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY.

COMPANY'S ROYAL MAIL STEAMSHIP LINE.

LUXURY—SPEED—PUNCTUALITY.

THE ONLY LINE THAT MAINTAINS A REGULAR SCHEDULE SERVICE OF UNDEK
11 DAYS ACROSS THE PACIFIC IN THE "EMPERESS LINE," SAVING 5 TO 10 DAYS' OCEAN TRAVEL.
11 DAYS YOKOHAMA TO VANCOUVER.
15 DAYS HONGKONG TO VANCOUVER.

R.M.S.	PROPOSED SAILINGS	(Subject to Alteration)	LEAVE HONGKONG	ARRIVE VANCOUVER
"TARTAR"	4,425	WEDNESDAY, 9th Jan.	2nd Feb.	
"EMPERESS OF CHINA"	6,000	THURSDAY, 17th Jan.	4th Feb.	
"MONTEAGLE"	6,163	WEDNESDAY, 23rd Jan.	16th Feb.	
"EMPERESS OF INDIA"	6,000	THURSDAY, 14th Feb.	4th Mar.	
"ATHENIAN"	3,882	WEDNESDAY, 20th Feb.	16th Mar.	
"EMPERESS OF JAPAN"	6,000	THURSDAY, 14th Mar.	1st April	

"EMPERESS" Steamers will depart from HONGKONG at 4 P.M.

THE Quickest route to CANADA, UNITED STATES and EUROPE, calling at

YOKOHAMA, NAGASAKI, through the INLAND SEA OF JAPAN, KOBE,

Express, and at Quebec with the Company's NEW PALATIAL "EMPERESS" Steamships,

and 291 days from HONGKONG. The through transit to LIVERPOOL being 221 days from YOKOHAMA.

Hongkong to London, 1st Class, via St. Lawrence 280; via New York 282.

Intermediate on Steamers ... 440, ... 442.

R.M.S. "MONTEAGLE," "TARTAR" and "ATHENIAN" carry Intermediate

passengers only, at Intermediate rates, affording superior accommodation, for that class.

SPECIAL RATES (First class only) granted to Missionaries, Members of the Naval

Military, Diplomatic, and Civil Services, and to European Officials in the Service of China

For further information, Maps, Routes, Handbooks, Rates of Freight and Passages, apply to

D. W. CRADDOCK, Acting General Agent,
Corner Polder Street and Praya, opposite Nanka Pier.

Hongkong, 1st December, 1906.

JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN LINE,
YORK BUILDINGS.

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